Message Text

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FM USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3750
INFO AMEMBASSY TOKYO
AMEMBASSY VIENNA

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E.O. 11652: GDS TAGS: PFOR, UN SUBJECT: JAPAN-US CONSULTATIONS ON OUTER SPACE COMMITTEE (OSC) AGENDA.

- 1. MISOFF BRIEFED JAPANESE UN OFFICER MATSUOZAWA MAY 25 ON US POSITIONS FOR VIENNA OUTER SPACE COMMITTEE MEETING. JAPANESE DELEGATION AT OSC WILL BE HEADED BY MR. ARAI, COUNSELLOR, JAPANESE EMBASSY, VIENNA, AND ALSO WILL INCLUDE MR. NAKAMURA, FORMER DEPUTY DIRECTOR, MFA INTERNATIONAL CONVENTIONS BUREAU, AND MATSUOZAWA. JAPANESE DEL WILL SEEK EARLY CONSULTATIONS WITH US DEL IN VIENNA ON DBS AND OTHER ISSUES.
- 2. ON DBS, MATSUOZAWA SAID THAT JAPAN AGREES WITH BASIC US POSITION ON FREE FLOW OF INFORMATION AND THE NEED TO AVOID ADOPTION AT THE 32ND UNGA OF A RESOLUTION ENDORSING PRIOR CONSENT. JAPAN'S TACTICAL APPROACH AT THE OSC, HOWEVER, IS AFFECTED BY SPECIFIC REGIONAL CONSIDERATIONS. THE JAPANESE BROADCASTING AUTHORITY BELIEVES IT PROBABLY WILL BE NECESSARY AT SOME STAGE TO HAVE CONSULTATIONS WITH CHINA, KOREA AND THE USSR ON INTERNATIONAL DBS AND CONCEIVABLY ALSO NATIONAL CONFIDENTIAL

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DBS INSOFAR AS THE LATTER COULD INVOLVE TECHNICAL SPILLOVER TO THOSE STATES. GIVEN THE POLITICAL SENSITIVITY OF THE DBS ISSUE IN JAPAN AND IN THE REGION, HOWEVER, THE JAPANESE WOULD PREFER TO AVOID HIGHLIGHTING THE CONSULTATION PROBLEM AT THIS STAGE. MATSUOZAWA ASKED WHETHER THE US ENVISAGED CONSULTATIONS ONLY BEFORE COMMENCEMENT OF DBS OR ALSO AFTER TRANSMISSIONS BEGIN. COMMENT: OUR

IMPRESSION IS THAT JAPANESE DEL WILL ADOPT CAUTIOUS, LOW-PROFILE APPROACH IN VIENNA WORKING GROUP.

- 3. OUTER SPACE CONFERENCE: MATSUOZAWA RECALLED THAT JAPAN PREVIOUSLY HAS SUPPORTED THE CONVENING OF AN OUTER SPACE CONFERENCE. WHILE IT UNDERSTANDS THE US VIEW AGAINST AN EARLY DECISION, IT CANNOT COMPLETELY TURN AWAY FROM ITS PREVIOUS POSITION. JAPAN WOULD SUPPORT THE WORKING GROUP APPROACH WHICH WOULD DEFER A DECISION FOR THE TIME BEING.
- 4. OSC MEMBERSHIP: JAPAN AGREES WITH US THAT OSC MEMBERSHIP SHOULD NOT BE ENLARGED, BUT IS CONCERNED ABOUT HOW TO APPROACH THIS MATTER IN VIENNA SO AS TO AVOID A HEAD-ON CONFRONTATION WITH THE DEVELOPING STATES.
- 5. JAPAN SUPPORTS US POSITIONS ON THE MOON TREATY, REMOTE SENSING, AND DRAFT RESOLUTION ON ACCESSION TO THE OUTER SPACE TREATY AND THE NEED TO PRESERVE CONSENSUS PROCEDURES. LEONARD

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